The Insider: Secrets of an 'A' student

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Traits of an "A" student include typed notes, a displayed study schedule and time allotted for exercise. But if you aren't that advanced in your A-student game, here are a few tips to get you on the right path.



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Use a planner

This is not negotiable. Add assignments from each syllabus to your calendar. Seeing everything in one place allows you to better prioritize your workload.

Consider using a binder

Stray papers can be a nuisance, but a sturdy binder, a three-hole puncher and colorâ ?"coded tabs solve the "stray" problem. When you receive a handout, punch holes and insert it near the notes from your class discussion on that topic. Your binder will read like a chronological book.

End your day with a to-do list

Most people start the day by making a list of things they hope to accomplish. However, creating your list in the evening allows you to mentally end one day and relax knowing what tomorrow holds.

Use virtual storage

Create folders for each class on a computer or jump drive. Label each using the course name. Next, create a "Fall 2013" folder and drag in the course folders you just created. Now you can save all typed notes in the respective files. Repeat each semester.